

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02322 291429Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 /080 W
-----088987 291431Z /43

O 291350Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8764
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2322

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS PDEV RH ZA
SUBJ: RHODESIA: ZIPRA COMMANDER MANGENA KIPLD

1. ALFRED NIKITA MANGENA, COMMANDER OF ZIPRA FORCES, THE MILITARY WING OF ZAPU, WAS KILLED JUNE 28 WHEN HIS VEHICLE STRUCK A LANDMINE IN AN AREA ALONG ZAMBIA'S BORDER WITH RHODESIA. VERY BRIEF NEWS REPORTS OF THE INCIDENT HAVE NOT GIVEN THE PRECISE LOCATION OF THE INCIDENT, AND MENTION THE ONLY OTHER PERSON INJURED IN THE EXPLOSION TO BE MANGENA'S DRIVER.
2. A ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TOLD PRESS THAT MANGENA'S DEATH UNDERLINES THE INTENSIFICATION OF THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE. HE WARNED ZAMBIANS THAT THE INCIDENT WAS A REMINDER THAT THE ENEMY IS STILL ACTIVE AND APPEALED FOR EVERYONE TO BE VIGILANT AND REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS PERSONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02322 291429Z

3. COMMENT: THE INCIDENT APPARENTLY TOOK PLACE IN THE GENERAL LOCATION WHERE A CLASH TOOK PLACE OVER THE WEEKEND BETWEEN ZIPRA PERSONNEL AND RHODESIAN FORCES. AMBASSADOR LOW REPORTS THAT HE HEARD IN SALISBURY THAT A RHODESIAN FORCE AMBUSHED A GROUP OF ABOUT 80 ZIPRA GUERRILLAS ON JUNE 25, KILLING 50 OF THEM. THE AMBUSH TOOK PLACE IN ZAMBIA BETWEEN CHOMA AND LAKE KARIBA. WE WOULD GUESS THAT MANGENA WAS IN THE AREA TO INVESTIGATE THE

INCIDENT WHEN HE HIT A MINE LEFT BY THE RHODESIANS. THERE ARE ALSO RUMORS CIRCULATING THAT OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ZIPRA COMMAND WERE KILLED OR WOUNDED ALONG WITH MANGENA.

4. THE QUICK PUBLICITY GIVEN TO MANGENA'S DEATH IS NOT IN KEEPING WITH THE USUAL CLAMP PUT ON REPORTS OF SIMILAR INCIDENTS. ASIDE FROM THE FACT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICES HAD PICKED UP THE STORY (PERHAPS FROM THEIR OWN SOURCES), THE INCIDENT MAY HAVE BEEN MADE PUBLIC IN AN ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF ANY RUMORS THAT MANGENA WAS ASSASSINATED IN CONNECTION WITH INTRA-ZAPU STRUGGLES. TRIBAL PROBLEMS WITHIN ZAPU HAVE BECOME FAIRLY COMMON KNOWLEDGE, AND THE SMOOTHING OVER OF THOSE PROBLEMS WOULD BE HURT SEVERELY IF IT APPEARED THAT MANGENA WAS ASSASSINATED. WHETHER OR NOT THE QUICK REPORTING OF THE INCIDENT SCOTCHES SUCH RUMORS, THE LOSS OF MANGENA AND PERHAPS OTHERS MAY PRESENT ZAPU WITH SOME SERIOUS ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS IN THEIR MILITARY WING.

LOW

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA02322
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780269-0401
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978068/aaaaagiv.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0404c68c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2429340
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: ZIPRA COMMANDER MANGENA KIPLD
TAGS: MOPS, PDEV, RH, ZA, (MANGENA, ALFRED NIKITA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0404c68c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014